



# NAKASEC

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## BACKGROUND

The National Korean American Service & Education Consortium (NAKASEC) was founded in 1994 by local community centers seeking to empower and improve the lives of Korean Americans as a part of a greater goal of building a national movement for social change. They are the Korean Resource Center (KRC) in Los Angeles, Korean American Resource & Cultural Center (KRCC) in Chicago and YKASEC – Empowering the Korean American Community (YKASEC) in New York.

NAKASEC and its affiliates form a strong and unique network that forwards a holistic empowerment model. Our affiliates provide programs in education, social services, culture, civic engagement and organizing that address the full human & political needs of community members. NAKASEC develops sound and informed policy advocacy goals, produces relevant educational products and coordinates results oriented national grassroots campaigns that are informed by its participation in national strategy formations and directed by the leadership of our affiliates.

## OUR MISSION

To project a national progressive voice on major civil rights and immigrant rights issues and promote the full participation of Korean Americans in American society. NAKASEC has and continues to make great strides for civil and human rights for all minority and disadvantaged communities, so that everyone may someday enjoy equal rights in America.

## NAKASEC PROGRAM AREAS

Immigration Reform, Civic Engagement & Voter Empowerment, Youth Development, Immigrant Integration, Healthcare Reform, Workers' Rights

## WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT NAKASEC:

*"NAKASEC is a proven leader in the Asian Pacific Islander American community. They are dedicated to bettering the lives of APIAs in America with a tireless commitment to face challenges and break down barriers to civil rights, voting rights, and language access that prevent immigrants from fully integrating into society. NAKASEC has successfully contributed to positive changes in policy and legislation for APIAs, and we have all benefited from their work."*

*-Congressman Mike Honda, Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus*

*"NAKASEC is well known for their work on immigration reform issues, but they are also committed to issues beyond that realm. NAKASEC stands alongside other coalitions to advocate for basic human rights for all individuals, regardless of background, ethnicity, and immigration status. They have campaigned for issues that affect us all, including quality healthcare for all individuals, worker rights, and reasonable living wage jobs."*

*-Eliseo Medina, Executive Vice – President, Service Employees International Union*

*"Every generation has a source of inspiration that comes from within a community. NAKASEC is the inspiration of this generation of Korean Americans who face tough questions about the future. In answer to those questions, NAKASEC provides points of access in policy debates, opportunities to train new leaders, a global analysis of domestic issues, and a place where culture, politics, and advocacy come together to benefit all of society, not only Korean Americans."*

*-Angela Oh, Western Justice Center Foundation*

*"As a senior of the Korean American and immigrant community, I have benefited from NAKASEC's work first-hand. NAKASEC demonstrates through their work a constant commitment to bettering lives and serving the needs of the people in the community. It is through NAKASEC and its local center, the Korean Resource Center, that I am an active participant in the Community Health Promoters group, which is comprised of seniors who meet on a monthly basis to discuss problems and seek solutions in regards to health access, and have sought fair and equitable rights for minority and disadvantaged peoples. I believe that regardless of race, gender, background, or age, we can determine the direction of our futures with dedication and commitment to change."*

*-Hee Pok Kim, Community Member*